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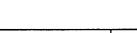
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FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR APPLICATION NO. ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. J 970552 08/979,438 11/26/97 RUPEL **EXAMINER** PM82/0502 PUROL, D **BUCHANAN INGERSOLL ART UNIT** PAPER NUMBER ONE OXFORD CENTRE 301 GRANT STREET 20TH FLOOR PITTSBURGH PA 15219-1410 3634 **DATE MAILED:** 05/02/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks





Application No. Applicant(s)

David M. Purol

08/979,438

Examiner

John D. Rupel et al.

Group Art Unit 3634

Office Action Summary

Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 10, 2000 This action is FINAL. ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). Disposition of Claims is/are pending in the application. X Claim(s) 1-57 Of the above, claim(s) 1-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration. _____is/are allowed. X Claim(s) 20 and 25-44 is/are objected to. ☐ Claims ______ are subject to restriction or election requirement. **Application Papers** See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948. ☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are objected to by the Examiner. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on ______ is ☐ approved disapproved. ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d). ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received. received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). *Certified copies not received: Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e). Attachment(s) ☑ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413 ☑ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 ■ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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1. Applicant's election of Group II in Paper No. 10 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Accordingly, claims 1-19 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention.

- 2. On page 9, line 14 recites "vertical threads 64", wherein, the reference numeral 64 has been used previously to denote the tabs. Only one particular reference numeral is to be used to designate a specific element. Correction is required.
- 3. Claims 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 21, line 2 recites "the front edge" (both occurrences) which appears to be inaccurate inasmuch as reference should be made to the --the rear edge--.

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 45,47-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Colson et al '553.

- 5. Claims 52-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Judkins '882.
- 6. Claims 20,25-44 are allowed.
- 7. Claims 21-24 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.
- 8. Claim 46 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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9. The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Ford et al, Barss, Carter et al, Judkins et al, Jelic.

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DMP April 27, 2000 (703) 308-2168